**General Literary Analysis Guidelines**

**Basic Structure**

1. Introduction
2. Hook
3. Thesis
4. Point 1 –supports your thesis
5. Topic Sentence
6. Concrete Detail
7. Commentary
8. Commentary
9. Concrete Detail
10. Commentary
11. Commentary
12. Point 2 –supports your thesis
13. Topic Sentence
14. Concrete Detail
15. Commentary
16. Commentary
17. Concrete Detail
18. Commentary
19. Commentary
20. Point 3 –supports your thesis
21. Topic Sentence
22. Concrete Detail
23. Commentary
24. Commentary
25. Concrete Detail
26. Commentary
27. Commentary
28. Conclusion – So What?

**A Chunk = CD + CM1 + CM2**

**CD – Concrete detail; embed short quotations into your own writing. Use signal phrases.**

**CM1 – Commentary that explains the meaning or significance or your concrete detail**

**CM2- Commentary that relates this chunk to your overall idea.**

**Writing Tips You Must Follow (or lose points):** Check and double-check your paper.

Avoid contractions (can’t, won’t, etc.) unless in a quotation

Don’t use slang or trash words (thing, stuff, etc), unless in a quotation

Write only in third person. Don’t use “you” or “I.”

Titles of speeches and short works are in “quotations;” longer works should be *italicized*.

Use sentence variety

Use specific, vivid, and detailed incidents and examples to support your thesis

Fix all comma splice errors, run-ons, and sentence fragments.

Run spell check, but remember that it won’t catch the wrong use of words (hear/here)

**Write in all present tense**. Always write about literature in the present tense.

Fix all typing errors.

Make sure all paragraphs are indented a half an inch

**Do not use “get” or “got.” Use stronger verbs.**

**Do not write like you talk. This is a FORMAL ESSAY.**